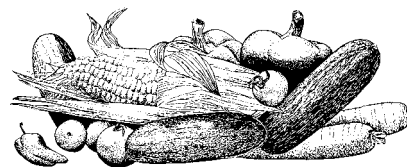


California Vegetable Review



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SUMMER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE

The prospective U.S. area for harvest of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the summer quarter is estimated at 310,000 acres, down 2 percent from last year. Acreage decreases in head lettuce, cabbage, sweet corn, snap beans, and tomatoes more than offset acreage increases in cucumbers, broccoli, and carrots. Cauliflower, celery, and bell peppers remained the same. The area estimated for melon harvest is 124,000 acres, up 4 percent from last year. Cantaloupe acreage is estimated at 44,600 acres, 5 percent above 2003. Honeydew acreage, at 15,800, is up 12 percent from last year. Watermelon acreage is less than 1 percent above a year ago with 63,600.

Broccoli: California's acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 37,500 acres, up 9 percent from last year. Conditions have been favorable. Fields were planted under good conditions with no major pest or disease problems reported. Recent low carbohydrate and low-fat diet trends have increased demand for broccoli.

Cantaloupe: California growers expect to harvest 36,500 acres, up 5 percent from 2003. California's summer crop is progressing well. Crop quality has been good, but abundant supplies resulted in below normal prices. Nationally, summer cantaloupe acreage for harvest is estimated at 44,600 acres, up 5 percent from 2003. Both Georgia and South Carolina had a very dry spring, but recent rain has helped improve their crop conditions. Texas growers are expecting a good crop since this season's weather has remained mild.

Carrots: California carrot producers expect to harvest 15,500 acres, up 3 percent from the previous year. California's crop is progressing well as a result of favorable growing conditions. Baby carrots are still in high demand, and there is a growing demand for value added snack pack products. Nationally, acreage for fresh market harvest is estimated at 19,800 acres, up 3 percent from last year.

Cauliflower: California's acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 10,000 acres, unchanged from 2003. Favorable weather has helped the crop progress well with no disease or pest problems reported.

(Continued on page 2.)

PROCESSING TOMATO ACREAGE AND TONNAGE INTENTIONS

In California, harvest is expected to begin one to two weeks early. The tomato crop is reported to be in very good condition. Warm, early spring weather accelerated maturity. Growers are expected to contract 291,000 acres, 2 percent more than in 2003. Contracted production is expected to be 11.0 million tons, up 20 percent from last year.

Nationally, contracted production is forecast at 11.5 million tons, up 19 percent from last year's comparable states. Area contracted, at 309,200 acres, is up 1 percent from 2003 for comparable states.

PROCESSING TOMATOES BY STATE

State	Area Planted				Contract Change <u>2004</u> <u>2003</u>	Production				Contract Change <u>2004</u> <u>2003</u>
	2002 Total	2003		2004 Contract Intentions <u>1/</u>		2002 Total	2003		2004 Contract Intentions <u>1/</u>	
		Total	Contract <u>1/</u>				Total	Contract <u>1/</u>		
Acres				Percent	Tons				Percent	
California	296,000	289,000	286,000	291,000	102	11,056,000	9,252,000	9,141,000	11,000,000	120
Indiana	8,200	8,400	8,400	8,300	99	256,450	202,290	202,290	247,280	122
Michigan	3,700	3,400	3,400	3,400	100	126,000	125,400	125,400	112,000	89
New Jersey	---	---	---	800	---	---	---	---	22,400	---
Ohio	6,400	6,400	6,300	5,700	90	149,630	173,280	170,240	153,600	90
Other States <u>2/</u> <u>3/</u>	3,200	2,830	2,830	---	---	82,740	66,740	66,740	---	---
U.S.	317,500	310,030	306,930	309,200	101	11,670,820	9,819,710	9,705,670	11,535,280	119

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

2/ 2002 and 2003 — MD, NJ, and PA.

3/ Seasonal forecasts for MD are not available. Estimates to be published in the January 2005 annual report. PA estimates were discontinued in 2004.

**SUMMER FRESH MARKET
VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE**
(Continued from page 1)

Celery: California's summer acreage for harvest is estimated at 5,700 acres, unchanged from 2003. Heavy bug infestations were reported in the Santa Maria celery area due to unseasonably warm weather. Growers were forced to use chemicals to save the crop from heavy insect damage. Organic growers used beneficial insects to control bug damage.

Corn, Sweet: In California, producers expect to harvest 11,400 acres, up 2 percent from 2003. California's sweet corn crop is reported to be doing very well with no pest or disease problems reported. Nationally, fresh market acreage for harvest is estimated at 113,400 acres, down 5 percent from last year. The Illinois crop conditions are favorable. However, some growers are expecting lower yields due to excessive rainfall. Planting of the Michigan crop began on schedule, but emergence and growth were slowed by wet conditions during May. Plants under row covers fared better. New Jersey planting was complete by the second week of June. Harvest of early planted acreage began during the third week of June. Regular harvest will begin in early July. A good crop is expected. Planting in New York began in April and is expected to continue through early July. Dry conditions in June allowed growers to plant more during that period. North Carolina planting began under mostly dry conditions. Planting was completed on schedule. Most Ohio sweet corn growers were able to plant on time, but a few planted crops late and some were unable to plant at all due to very wet weather during May. In Wisconsin, wet and cold weather was reported statewide. Less acreage was planted because growers could not get into fields. Development of acreage that had been planted was slowed by the cool temperatures. This year's weather has hampered attempts to stagger planting for a continuous supply of corn.

Honeydew: California's harvested acreage of honeydew melons is estimated at 12,500, up 3 percent from last year. The crop is progressing well with no major pest or disease problems reported. The quality has been very good and supplies are abundant. Nationally, acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 15,800 acres, up 12 percent from last year. Melons in Arizona are ahead of schedule this season due to above average temperatures. Growers expect good quality and quantity from the summer crop.

Lettuce, Head: California's summer head lettuce acreage for harvest is estimated at 47,000 acres, down 6 percent from the comparable period a year ago. Iceberg lettuce supplies have been variable. Ideal weather conditions produced an abundance of lettuce early in the season, which lowered prices. Growers began discing the crop, hoping to improve market conditions. Nationally, acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 48,800 acres, down 6 percent from last year.

Tomatoes: California's producers expect to harvest 20,000 acres, the same as the comparable period a year ago. The tomato crop was planted on time. Cool temperatures slowed development in some areas. More recent warmer weather has prompted vigorous growth in some fields. Nationally, fresh market acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 36,000 acres, down 2 percent from last year.

Watermelon: California producers expect to harvest 9,600 acres, 3 percent above the comparable period a year ago. California is having a good season with excellent quality and abundant supplies reported. Nationally, summer acreage for harvest is estimated at 63,600 acres, up less than 1 percent from 2003.

SUMMER VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area Harvested		Area for Harvest 2004	2004
		2002	2003		2003
		Acres			
BROCCOLI: 1/ California	June-Sept.	32,500	34,500	37,500	109
CANTALOUPE: California	July-Sept.	37,500	34,700	36,500	105
Georgia	June-Sept.	2,100	1,800	2,000	111
South Carolina	June-Sept.	1,500	1,200	1,400	117
Texas	July-Sept.	5,500	4,700	4,700	100
GROUP TOTAL		46,600	42,400	44,600	105
CARROTS: California	July-Sept.	16,000	15,000	15,500	103
Michigan	July-Nov.	4,000	4,200	4,300	102
GROUP TOTAL		20,000	19,200	19,800	103
CAULIFLOWER: 1/ California	July-Sept.	9,500	10,000	10,000	100
CELERY: 1/ California	July-Sept.	5,600	5,700	5,700	100
CORN, SWEET: California	July-Sept.	10,300	11,200	11,400	102
Illinois	July-Aug.	5,600	5,600	5,500	98
Michigan	July-Oct.	10,000	9,500	7,800	82
New Jersey	July-Oct.	8,500	7,800	7,500	96
New York	July-Oct.	29,800	35,600	33,800	95
North Carolina	June-Aug.	8,100	8,200	8,500	104
Ohio	July-Oct.	14,400	15,200	14,600	96
Pennsylvania	June-Sept.	17,400	18,800	17,500	93
Wisconsin	Aug.-Sept.	7,800	7,400	6,800	92
GROUP TOTAL		111,900	119,300	113,400	95
HONEYDEW: Arizona	June-Sept.	1,500	2,000	3,300	165
California	July-Sept.	13,000	12,100	12,500	103
GROUP TOTAL		14,500	14,100	15,800	112
LETTUCE, HEAD: California	July-Sept.	49,500	50,000	47,000	94
Colorado	June-Sept.	2,700	1,800	1,800	100
GROUP TOTAL		52,200	51,800	48,800	94
TOMATOES: California	July-Sept.	22,500	20,000	20,000	100
Michigan	July-Sept.	2,000	2,200	2,100	95
New Jersey	July-Oct.	3,300	3,100	3,000	97
New York	July-Oct.	2,700	2,300	2,300	100
Pennsylvania	June-Sept.	4,300	4,200	3,600	86
Virginia	July-Sept.	5,300	4,800	5,000	104
GROUP TOTAL		40,100	36,600	36,000	98
WATERMELON: California	July-Sept.	8,700	9,300	9,600	103
Georgia	June-Sept.	23,000	25,000	27,000	108
Mississippi	June-Sept.	3,400	3,000	3,000	100
South Carolina	June-Sept.	7,500	7,000	7,000	100
Texas	July-Sept.	20,000	19,000	17,000	89
GROUP TOTAL		62,600	63,300	63,600	100

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

**For information on part-time jobs collecting
agricultural data in your local area,
please call 1-800-851-1127.**

ONION ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION

Production of spring onions in 2004 is forecast at 11.1 million cwt., up 17 percent from both last year and 2002. The crop is produced on 35,300 harvested acres, averaging 316 cwt. per acre. Arizona harvest has just begun and is expected to continue until mid to late-July. California's spring onion crop received warm weather in March followed by alternating cool and hot temperatures, which resulted in less than ideal conditions at critical times. Georgia's crop is rated in fair to mostly good condition for this growing season. Texas spring onions are doing extremely well this year, even with heavy rains in April that interrupted harvest. Size and quality are good.

Production of non-storage onions is forecast at 10.0 million cwt., down 10 percent from last year. Harvested area covers 22,400 acres, up 3 percent from 2003. California non-storage summer onions were planted without any major problems reported, however, conditions during development have been less than ideal. Nevada's crop is in good condition and irrigation water supplies are adequate. New Mexico growers report depressed prices, which may affect the amount of acreage harvested by the end of the season. Texas summer onions are doing very well this year. The onion growing areas were missed by heavy rain storms and hail in April. Good size and quality are reported.

Growers expect to harvest 110,350 acres of storage onions this year, up 3 percent from last year. In California, warm March weather was followed by both cool and hot temperatures resulting in less than ideal conditions at critical times. Yields may be lower as a result. Idaho's crop is doing well with overall growth ahead of last year, however, some areas were affected by unavailability of water early in the season. Michigan

growers completed planting in early May, but rain showers since have caused some moisture damage. Minnesota weather conditions were very wet in the spring due to strong storms, which left standing water in the fields. Drier weather during June has helped dry the fields. New York planted acreage has returned to normal levels after a poor crop last year. Harvest began early and transplants were set before the wet spring arrived. Current growing conditions are good. Oregon's growing conditions are better than in past years. Precipitation has been above normal with plenty of sunshine in areas outside of Malheur, while precipitation in the Malheur area is below normal. Utah is still dealing with drought conditions for the sixth consecutive year. Quality of the crop ranges from poor to good. Growers are counting on irrigation water supplies to sustain the crop, but the expectation is that water supplies will be short. Some Washington growers had to replant acreage damaged by high winds. Hail damaged some onions early in the season, but they are expected to recover. Development was slowed during the end of May and early June by cool temperatures, but temperatures across the State had increased by the end of June allowing for good growth. A good crop is anticipated. Conditions in Wisconsin have been wet, causing concern with the onion crop.

The final tally of 2003 storage onion production is 49.4 million cwt., down less than 1 percent from 2002. Harvested acreage, at 107,190 acres, is virtually unchanged from 2002. The average yield of 461 cwt. per acre is 1 cwt. below 2002. The 2003 storage crop is valued at \$473 million, an increase of 12 percent from 2002. Average price per cwt. increased from \$9.80 in 2002 to \$10.80 in 2003. With spring and non-storage summer onions added in, the total value of the 2003 harvested onions was \$940 million, up 23 percent from 2002.

ONION ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION 1/

Season and State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	Acres				Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
SPRING 2/								
Arizona	1,500	1,600	1,500	1,600	500	540	750	864
California	6,400	6,900	6,200	6,700	490	450	3,038	3,015
Georgia	14,000	16,500	12,500	14,500	175	260	2,188	3,770
Texas	12,800	14,500	11,000	12,500	320	280	3,520	3,500
SPRING TOTAL	34,700	39,500	31,200	35,300	304	316	9,496	11,149
SUMMER								
<u>Non-Storage 2/</u>								
California	7,300	7,200	7,000	6,800	500	475	3,500	3,230
Nevada	3,100	3,200	3,100	3,200	600	580	1,860	1,856
New Mexico	7,700	7,700	7,700	7,700	550	450	4,235	3,465
Texas	2,700	3,400	2,500	3,200	400	300	1,000	960
Washington 3/	1,400	1,500	1,400	1,500	370	350	518	525
NON-STORAGE TOTAL	22,200	23,000	21,700	22,400	512	448	11,113	10,036
<u>Storage 4/</u>								
California 5/	31,800	29,400	30,800	28,500	405	---	12,474	---
Colorado	10,500	12,500	9,600	11,500	385	---	3,696	---
Idaho	10,000	11,000	9,800	10,800	600	---	5,880	---
Michigan	3,700	3,800	3,600	3,700	320	---	1,152	---
Minnesota	280	290	210	250	310	---	65	---
New York	12,100	13,400	11,900	12,000	320	---	3,808	---
Ohio	380	400	380	400	320	---	122	---
Oregon- Malheur	12,400	13,000	12,200	13,000	590	---	7,198	---
- Other	6,900	8,000	6,900	8,000	470	---	3,243	---
Utah	1,900	1,400	1,800	1,300	460	---	828	---
Washington	18,000	19,000	18,000	19,000	570	---	10,260	---
Wisconsin	2,100	2,100	2,000	1,900	345	---	690	---
STORAGE TOTAL	110,060	114,290	107,190	110,350	461	---	49,416	---
SUMMER TOTAL	132,260	137,290	128,890	132,750	470	---	60,529	---
U.S. TOTAL -- ALL ONIONS	166,960	176,790	160,090	168,050	437	---	70,025	---

1/ Estimates for 2003 revised.

2/ Primarily fresh market.

3/ Includes Walla Walla and other non-storage onions.

4/ Yield and production for 2004 will be published October 1, 2004.

5/ Primarily dehydrated and other processing.

Census of Agriculture Results Are Now Available

The 2002 Census of Agriculture results are in! The census provides detailed national, State and county level data representing all U.S. producers and commodities. Data also are available for Puerto Rico.

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